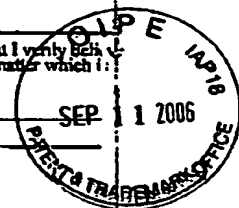


UNITED STATES OF AMERICA COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION		OFGS FILE NO. P/3255-102																																															
<p>As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I verify that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:</p> <p>DEVICE AND METHOD FOR LAYING RIGID TUBULAR PIPES</p>																																																	
<p>the specification of which is attached hereto, unless the following box is checked:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> was filed on <u>10 January 2005</u> as United States patent Application Number or PCT international patent application number <u>PCT/FR2005/000050</u> and was amended on _____ (if any).</p>																																																	
<p>I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.</p> <p>I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.</p> <p>I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or United States provisional application(s) listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:</p> <p>Prior Foreign or Provisional Application(s)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>COUNTRY</th> <th>APPLICATION NUMBER</th> <th>DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)</th> <th>PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>FRANCE</td> <td>0400757</td> <td>27 January 2004</td> <td>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>UNITED STATES APPLICATION NUMBER</th> <th>DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)</th> <th>STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>I hereby appoint customer no. 2152 OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP, and the members of the firm, Samuel H. Weiner - Reg. No. 18,510 Robert C. Faber - Reg. No. 24,322; Max Moskowitz - Reg. No. 30,576; James A. Forder - Reg. No. 30,173; William O. Gray, III - Reg. No. 30,344; Louis C. Dujmich - Reg. No. 30,625; and Douglas A. Miro - Reg. No. 31,643, as attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application, transact all business in the Patent & Trademark Office connected therewith and to receive all correspondence.</p> <p>SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP 1180 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10036-8403 CUSTOMER NO. 2152</p> <p>DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO: (212) 382-0700</p> <p>I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR Philippe ESPINASSE</td> <td>INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE P. P. Espinasse</td> <td>DATE 08/07/2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">RESIDENCE (City and either State or Foreign Country) Bihorel, France</td> <td>COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP France</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">POST OFFICE ADDRESS 35, rue Pigeon, 76420 Bihorel, France</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR (if any)</td> <td>INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE</td> <td>DATE</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">RESIDENCE (City and either State or Foreign Country)</td> <td>COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">POST OFFICE ADDRESS</td> </tr> </table>				COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119	FRANCE	0400757	27 January 2004	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>				YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>				YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	UNITED STATES APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)										FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR Philippe ESPINASSE	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE P. P. Espinasse	DATE 08/07/2006	RESIDENCE (City and either State or Foreign Country) Bihorel, France		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP France	POST OFFICE ADDRESS 35, rue Pigeon, 76420 Bihorel, France			FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR (if any)	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE	RESIDENCE (City and either State or Foreign Country)		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	POST OFFICE ADDRESS		
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119																																														
FRANCE	0400757	27 January 2004	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>																																														
			YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>																																														
			YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>																																														
UNITED STATES APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)																																															
FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR Philippe ESPINASSE	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE P. P. Espinasse	DATE 08/07/2006																																															
RESIDENCE (City and either State or Foreign Country) Bihorel, France		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP France																																															
POST OFFICE ADDRESS 35, rue Pigeon, 76420 Bihorel, France																																																	
FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR (if any)	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE																																															
RESIDENCE (City and either State or Foreign Country)		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP																																															
POST OFFICE ADDRESS																																																	



BEST AVAILABLE COPY